



**A**s a steward of our nation's coastal and marine environments, NOAA addresses immediate and long-term environmental threats through its Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R). Scientists are on call around-the-clock to provide the U.S. Coast Guard and other emergency responders with critical information to help minimize environmental damage caused by oil and hazardous chemical spills. Environmental experts assess ecosystems compromised by historic or ongoing contamination and work with other organizations to conduct remediation, restoration, and monitoring of critical natural resources.

### Protecting and Restoring South Carolina's Coastal and Marine Areas

NOAA trust resources in South Carolina include more than 2,800 shoreline miles of bays, inlets, and islands. South Carolina's extensive and productive salt marshes rank fourth nationally in total acreage. However, chronic contamination from industrial activities has damaged coastal resources and the businesses and communities that depend on them. The state map on the reverse page shows key response and restoration activities in the past year.

### Emergency Response

In June 2007, NOAA held an intensive five-day Oil Spill Response and Shoreline Assessment Training course for personnel from federal and state agencies as well as representatives from the oil industry and oil spill response industry in South Carolina and Georgia. Participants learned about the behavior of spilled oil and its effects on different shoreline and habitat types, as well as spill response decision-making strategies. The training was designed to prepare members of the spill community for their participation in the Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Team and to facilitate communication of ideas, concerns, and priorities among agencies, states, and industry.

### Assessment and Restoration

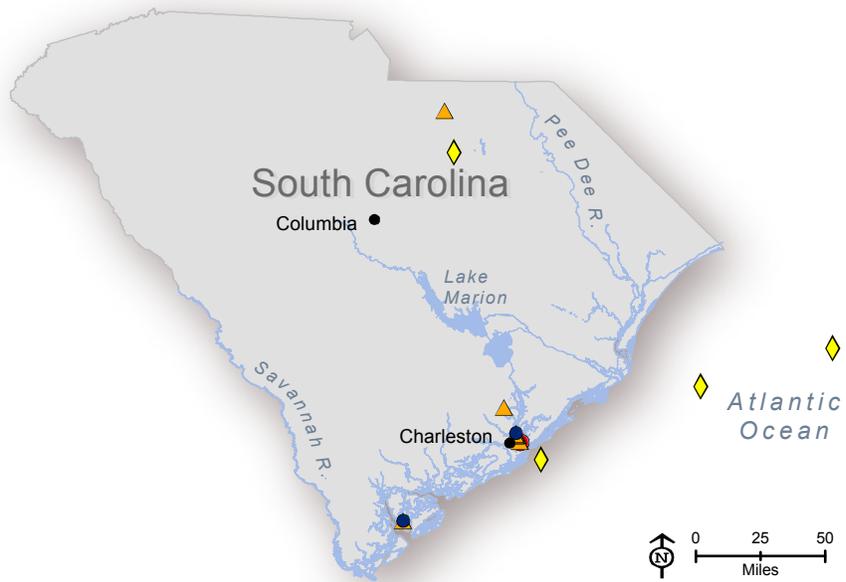
Chronic release of hazardous substances began at the Macalloy Corporation site in north Charleston around 1941 when the site began manufacturing ferrochromium alloy. Waste materials contaminated with heavy metals such as chromium and lead were disposed of on-site. Surface water infiltrated underlying soils and groundwater and flowed overland, discharging to Shipyard Creek, a tributary to the Cooper River. NOAA, with other trustees, conducted a preliminary injury assessment and determined the appropriate amount of salt marsh restoration necessary to compensate the public for resource injuries resulting from heavy metal contamination. Site investigations and cleanup to remediate chromium contamination were completed in six years, allowing a rapid transition of the site from a dilapidated parcel of property to a valuable community resource.



*Macalloy Corporation, Charleston, South Carolina*

### Research

NOAA collaborates with other federal, state, and local programs to develop innovative approaches to protecting marine and estuarine environments through research and synthesis of information. The Coastal Response Research Center (CRRCC) brings together the resources of a research-oriented university and the field expertise of OR&R to conduct and oversee basic and applied research, conduct outreach, and encourage strategic partnerships in spill response, assessment, and restoration.



- ▲ Hazardous Waste Site
- Spill Case
- Restoration Site
- ◆ Emergency Response Support

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*NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration—Protecting our Coastal Environment*

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**For further information about NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration,  
 please call (301) 713-2989 or visit our Web site at  
[response.restoration.noaa.gov](http://response.restoration.noaa.gov)**

